

Shaw's Supermarkets, Inc.

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TO: Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary

Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy

FROM: Kathy Loftus

DATE: December 8, 1999

SUBJ: New England Electric System and Eastern Utilities Associates, D.T.E. 99-47

I am writing to express Shaw's Supermarkets' satisfaction with the rate plan settlement. As a party to the settlement through The Energy Consortium, I worked directly with NEES, the Attorney General's office, and the DOER. All parties diligently strived to achieve a settlement that would provide benefits primarily to ratepayers and subsequently to other parties (NEES, etc.). I believe this settlement may also serve as a model for other utility mergers being considered, and I appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments.